

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 6, 2012
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 21, 2012
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 13, 2011
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2011
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2011
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 683

Introduced by Assembly Member Ammiano
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Atkins, Hueso, and Torres)

February 17, 2011

An act to add Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 13710) to Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to homeless persons.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 683, as amended, Ammiano. Homelessness: housing status data. Under existing law, various agencies administer programs for the support of homeless persons.

This bill would require the Employment Development Department, the State Department of Health Care Services, and the State Department of Social Services to inquire in both paper applications and electronic applications, as prescribed, into the housing status of persons who apply for specified benefits to determine whether or not an applicant has stable housing, is at risk of homelessness, or is experiencing homelessness. This bill would require those departments only to implement those

provisions when there is another reason to revise the specified applications.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to gather
2 accurate, consistent data about Californians who lack housing
3 stability, and how these persons use social services. It is further
4 the intent of the Legislature to use this data to understand and
5 address the needs of Californians who lack housing stability.

6 SEC. 2. Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 13710) is added
7 to Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to
8 read:

9
10 CHAPTER 6.1. HOUSING DATA
11

12 13710. (a) The following departments shall inquire, pursuant
13 to subdivision (b), into the housing status of persons who apply
14 for the following benefits to determine whether or not an applicant
15 has stable housing, is at risk of homelessness, or is experiencing
16 homelessness.

17 (1) The Employment Development Department shall inquire
18 into the housing status of persons who apply for unemployment
19 insurance benefits.

20 (2) The State Department of Health Care Services shall inquire
21 into the housing status of persons who apply for Medi-Cal benefits.

22 (3) The State Department of Social Services shall inquire into
23 the housing status of persons who apply for California Work
24 Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) benefits and
25 CalFresh.

26 (b) Both paper and electronic application forms for the benefits
27 specified in subdivision (a) shall include the following questions,
28 and the following answers that an applicant may select, to
29 determine each applicant's housing status:

30 (1) Do you own or rent housing, or if you do not own or rent,
31 do you have a permanent place to live?

32 (A) Own.

33 (B) Rent.

- 1 (C) Have a permanent place to live.
2 (D) Do not have a permanent place to live.
3 (2) If you do not have a permanent place to live, where are you
4 currently staying?
5 (A) With a friend or family member.
6 (B) At a transitional living facility.
7 (C) At a shelter or church.
8 (D) In a car.
9 (E) At a migrant camp.
10 (F) In a place not intended for habitation (for example, a bus
11 depot or train station).
12 (G) On the streets.
13 (H) Other.
14 (3) If you do not have a permanent place to live, how long have
15 you not had a permanent place to live?
16 (A) Less than one year.
17 (B) Over one year.
18 (C) Off and on for two or three years.
19 (D) Off and on for three or more years.
20 *(c) Answers to questions regarding housing status specified in*
21 *subdivision (b) shall be optional and are not required in order for*
22 *an application form to be considered complete or for the*
23 *submission of an electronic application form.*
24 *(d) When applicable, information regarding housing status as*
25 *specified in subdivision (b) may be collected during an interview*
26 *process in lieu of an initial application or supplemental application*
27 *form.*
28 ~~(e)~~
29 *(e)* Each department identified in subdivision (a) shall implement
30 this section only when there is another reason to revise an
31 application for benefits.